

Oil & Natural Gas Extraction Portal

<http://energyextraction.caiweb.com/index.php>

What is the Oil & Natural Gas Extraction (ONGE) Portal?

- * The ONGE Portal is a website for small and medium sized oil and natural gas production companies and contracted servicing companies that is funded by EPA through a Cooperative Agreement with the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS).
- * The website is designed to be an easy access "first stop shop" for information regarding Federal and state environmental regulations that affect the development, extraction, production and processing of oil and natural gas.
- * The ONGE Portal will provide resources for activities in Indian country.
- * ONGE Portal content is not "new," rather content was collected from across EPA and from other sources, and then organized on a single easy-to-use Website.
- * EPA program office and regional oil and gas extraction subject matter experts are currently reviewing the draft Portal content. EPA comments will be provided to NCMS in early December.

Who has NCMS Reached out to?

- * State Review of Oil and Natural Gas Environmental Regulations (STRONGER)
- * University of Texas at Austin Petroleum Extension (PETEX)
- * GPA Midstream
- * Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission (IOGCC)
- * Environmental Council of States/Shale Gas Caucus (ECOS)
- * Oklahoma Independent Petroleum Association (OIPA)

What is Included on the ONGE Portal?

- * Collection of compliance information organized by statute (e.g., CAA, RCRA, NPDES, FIFRA) and Technical Topics (e.g., well production, processing).
- * Links to state and tribal government specific information for some topics (e.g., stormwater, Clean Air Act, pesticide regulatory officials).
- * The ONGE Portal broadly addresses land-based oil and natural gas extraction activities; it is not specific to hydraulic fracturing (an activity that may occur during land-based oil and natural gas extraction) but does include references to hydraulic fracturing.
- o A link to EPA's "Unconventional Oil and Natural Gas Development" website is provided on the ONGE Portal's homepage.
- o A technical discussion of well stimulation (hydraulic fracturing and acidizing) is provided under the ONGE Portal's "Technical Topics" page.
- o Regulations that specifically address hydraulic fracturing (e.g., Part 60 Subpart OOOO and NSPS OOOOa) are included.

Why did EPA Fund Development of the ONGE Portal?

- * Comprehensive environmental compliance information specific to the land-based oil and natural gas extraction sector is not otherwise available.
- * Noncompliance and an unawareness of regulatory requirements have been observed in the field. For example, noncompliance has been noted with:
 - o Storage vessel requirements, where air emissions are not properly routed to the control device. The ONGE Portal will provide access to CAA regulations and a Compliance Alert related to the issue.
 - o Stormwater and wetlands regulations, especially during drill pad construction. The ONGE Portal provides access to federal and state stormwater compliance information.

o UIC Class II program requirements, posing contamination risk of underground sources of drinking water, surrounding area, and population. The ONGE portal will provide access to UIC regulations.

* Funding the NCMS's development of the ONGE Portal supports the FY 2018-2022 EPA Strategic Plan, where the Agency committed to expanding its compliance assistance work by continuing to partner with third-party organizations and federal agencies to support 17 existing web-based, sector-specific Compliance Assistance Centers and develop new centers (see Goal 2, Objective 2.1).

o Within the Center program, a Portal provides regulatory context and links to existing resources whereas a Center provides additional grantee-developed content/resources.

* The ONGE Portal will serve as an update to the EPA developed Oil & Gas Extraction Sector Notebook (October 2000).

o The Sector Notebook Website (including the Oil & Gas Extraction Notebook) has historically been one of OECA's most visited websites.

* Since 1996, EPA-funded cooperative agreements have fueled development of virtual Compliance Assistance Centers (Center) making information accessible on-line to regulated entities to help them understand their obligations under environmental regulations. The Center program typically provides information for business and government sectors that have a national environmental footprint, large universe and demonstrated noncompliance. By increasing the understanding of environmental regulations, the regulated community is better equipped to comply.